

Appl. No.: 10/711,439
Amdt. Dated: 5/25/2006
Reply to Office action of: 03/15/2006

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Kindly replace paragraph [0011] with the following amended paragraph:

[0011]Summary

Kindly add the following new paragraphs after paragraph [0018]:

[0018.1] Figure 3 shows one embodiment of the control means mounted on an automobile onboard computer and cooperatively connected to a lighting unit and various sensors.

[0018.2] Figure 4 shows a schematic diagram of one embodiment of the control means of the present invention.

[0018.3] Figure 5 shows one embodiment of the supporting element with associated light sources mounted thereon suitable for enclosure in a case with an at least partially transparent lens cover.

Kindly replace paragraph [0026] with the following amended paragraph:

[0026] The control means 3 comprises an electronic system, comprising at least one microprocessor 31, associated to said detection means 32, electronic system by means of which the control means 3 control the current to be made to circulate through the light sources 2, increasing it or decreasing it, depending on the case, preferably using Pulse Wave Modulation (PWM) 33 techniques.

Kindly replace paragraph [0028] with the following amended paragraph:

[0028] To detect said sudden speed reduction of the vehicle, the system comprises a series of suitable detectors, such as an accelerometer 34 and/or inclinometer 35, or simply carries out a corresponding consultation with a computer 20 on board the vehicle through the control means 3, computer 20 which is aware of said sudden speed reduction by means of a series of associated devices known by a person skilled in the art. Such an

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embodiment is illustrated in Figure 3 which also shows a tail light assembly 21 and associated wiring 22.

Kindly replace paragraph [0029] with the following amended paragraph:

[0029] For another embodiment example, the control means 3 are adapted to actuate the light sources 2 to emit with said light intensity level in order to carry out said function consisting of acting as anti-fog lights, according to a corresponding detection of fog in the environment surrounding the vehicle, thus the system comprises one or several fog sensor devices, which in turn comprise a humidity sensor 37 and a temperature sensor 36.

Kindly replace paragraph [0030] with the following amended paragraph:

[0030] For a preferred embodiment example, the proposed system is partially arranged inside a casing 51 closed with a cover 52, at least partially transparent, situated in the rear part of a vehicle, being part of the control means 3 arranged in another part of the vehicle different to that of said casing 51, and the electronic system preferably being part of a computer 20 on board said vehicle. Such case is possible with the embodiment example shown in Figures 1 and 3, in which the control means 3, schematically shown, are spaced from the rest of the system.

Kindly replace paragraph [0031] with the following amended paragraph:

[0031] In another embodiment example the entire system is arranged inside said casing 51. Such case is possible with the embodiment example shown in Figure 2, in which the light sources 2 are divided into two groups, assembled on a flexible printed circuit 1, with which the electronic components forming the control means 3 are also connected, and being possible to adapt the circuit to the taillight of a chosen vehicle, and therefore arrange it inside said casing 51. The two groups of light sources 2 can function in any of the previously explained modes for different embodiment examples, i.e. keeping one of the groups switched off while no light source 2 of active group fails, or keeping the two groups switched on and varying the intensity to be made to circulate through all the light

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sources 2 when a malfunctioning of any of the light sources 2 is detected. Figure 5 illustrates a flexible printed circuit 1 mountable in a case 51 covered with an at least partially transparent lens cover 52.

Kindly add the following new paragraphs after paragraph[0031]:

[0031.1] Figure 4 illustrates an embodiment of the control means 3 having in cooperative combination a microprocessor 31, a detector 32, a PWM technique means 33, an accelerometer 34, and an inclinometer 35 mounted thereon and cooperatively connected remotely are a temperature sensor 36 and a humidity sensor 37.